



**State of Connecticut
Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Commission on Fire Prevention and Control**

- 1. IAFF 472 HazMat Technician Class**
- 2. West Hartford Firefighters Beer Tasting**
- 3. 14th Annual Connecticut Fallen Firefighters Memorial – September 25, 2016**
- 4. Interested in Solar Training? - NASFM/IREC Survey**
- 5. Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Course in South Windsor**
- 6. Connecticut Fire Department Instructors' Association Annual Dinner Meeting**
- 7. Newtown Hook & Ladder's 7th Annual Motorcycle Ride and BBQ/Pig Roast Fundraiser**
- 8. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week**

1. IAFF 472 HazMat Technician Class

Last minute training opportunity – The IAFF HazMat training division will be in-state providing a 472 HazMat technician class from Sept 26 – Oct 7th (Monday-Friday 0800-17:00hrs). The class will be held in Wallingford and there are a few spots remaining. The prerequisite for the class is ProBoard/IFSAC/DoD HazMat Ops or experienced firefighters with previous CT Fire Academy HazMat Ops preferably EPA 40hr HazMat Tech. This class is grant-funded so there is no cost to attendees. For more information or to register, email Deputy Chief Greg Priest from the UCONN Fire Department. Gregory.priest@uconn.edu

2. West Hartford Firefighters Beer Tasting

The West Hartford Firefighters Association will be hosting their 8th Annual Beer Tasting to benefit MDA on Saturday September 24 1700-2100 on the front lawn of the West Hartford Town Hall. Tickets are available at the door for \$10. Food is also available for an additional \$8. Please join us for a good time helping a great cause!

3. 14th Annual Connecticut Fallen Firefighters Memorial – September 25, 2016

On behalf of the Connecticut State Firefighter's Association Memorial Foundation is pleased to extend to you an invitation to attend the 14th Annual Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service scheduled for Sunday, September 25, 2016 (Rain or Shine) at the Connecticut Fire Academy, 34 Perimeter Road in Windsor Locks beginning at 12:30 P.M.

Please see the attached flyer.

4. Interested in Solar Training? - NASFM/IREC Survey

With over a million structures equipped with solar electric panels (photovoltaic or PV) in the US, chances are you will encounter solar on the job. The Interstate Renewable Energy Council, International Association of Fire Fighters, International Association of Electrical Inspectors, International Code Council's Solar Rating and Certification Corporation and the National Association of State Fire Marshals are partners on a two-year Department of Energy-funded project, which we expect will vastly increase the amount of fire fighters with knowledge and access to resources about solar safety and technology.

We'd like to hear what your experience with solar is so far, so we can offer training that best meets your needs. We know you are very busy, but appreciate if you, your staff, or fire personnel from your state can take 10 minutes to provide us with valuable information. As a token of our gratitude, we will share with you our key findings at the end of September, so you can see where your colleagues around the country stand with respect to solar knowledge.

5. Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Course in South Windsor

National Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Course

Oct 25-28, 2016 0800 -1600 Hours Daily

South Windsor Fire Department HQ 1175 Ellington Road, South Windsor, CT 06074

Cost: \$150.00 Local Fee and \$85.00 National SafeKids Certification Fee

Robin Bond Lead Instructor robin.bond@southwindsor.org 860-644-2551

To enroll go to www.cert.safekids.org.

There is no cutoff date or flyer for the course.

6. Connecticut Fire Department Instructors' Association Annual Dinner Meeting

The annual dinner meeting of the CFDIA will be held on **Thursday**, October 6, 2016 at the Manor Inn Restaurant; 1636 Meriden-Waterbury Turnpike; Milldale, CT. There will be a social hour starting at 6:00 PM with the dinner being served at 7:00 PM. Please see attached flyer for more details.

The Richard Sylvia Instructor of the Year award will be presented to Alan Zygmunt and the Harry Kelly Award will be presented to Richard McDonough. The Guest Speaker will be NFPA Fire Code Regional Director Steven Sawyer who will give an update on *NFPA Pro Qual and Fire Service Training*.

The cost for the dinner will be \$35.00 per person. Guests are welcome! Please RSVP to Richard McDonough at chiefmcdonough1@cox.net.

Please join us to recognize Alan and Richard on their well-deserved awards.

7. Newtown Hook & Ladder's 7th Annual Motorcycle Ride and BBQ/Pig Roast Fundraiser

Newtown Hook and Ladder's 7th Annual Motorcycle 50 mile ride followed by a Family BBQ and Pig roast will be held on September 24th

Ride registration starts at 1pm at the OLD firehouse at 45 Main Street Newtown, kickstands up at 3:00pm arriving at our NEW firehouse

Located at 12 Church Hill Road Newtown about 4:00pm. DON'T RIDE joins us for the Family BBQ/ Pig roast starting at 4:00 pm

See the attached flyer for additional information.

8. Firefighter Near Miss Report of the Week

Daily Vehicle Check Discovery

SUMMARY

A driver/engineer was completing the daily vehicle check and discovered an in-service SCBA cylinder was below the required operating pressure. Further investigation indicated that this cylinder and several others had not been properly inspected and were past hydrostatic test dates.

EVENT DESCRIPTION

One morning, the driver/engineer was conducting the daily apparatus check-off. During equipment inspection, it was discovered that an SCBA cylinder didn't contain the required amount of pressure. When the driver/engineer took it to the breathing-air filling room and prepared to fill the cylinder to the required pressure, it was found to be out of hydrostatic test requirements. Also found at that time was that other cylinders had been filled that were past due on hydrostatic test requirements.

The record shows that out of 120 cylinders filled, only 16 were within test requirements, a practice that had taken place consistently for over a year. Due to a lack of replacement cylinders, the cylinders weren't filled but placed back in service. Many have chosen to fill cylinders that weren't within requirements. The policy of not filling and placing a cylinder out of service wasn't being followed. Equipment testing has not been completed.

View the report: [Low SCBA Cylinder Found During Daily Vehicle Check](#)

TAKE-AWAYS

Complacency can happen during our routine inspection processes. Daily vehicle checks are repetitive, but a driver/engineer should ensure its completion. Discipline by all personnel assigned to the apparatus is paramount to ensure crew readiness.

Each assigned firefighter must ensure that all of the equipment they depend on is safe and operational; the driver/engineer must be part of this activity. No one can afford to be complacent during daily vehicle checks.

DISCUSSION

- What is your department's policy or guideline on daily vehicle checks?
- What could you and your crew do to improve the thoroughness and reliability of the daily vehicle checks?
- Does your department have a formal SCBA inspection process? Does it include what to do if a bottle is damaged or out of the hydrostatic testing date?
- Does your driver/engineer know about the maintenance plans of the various equipment on the apparatus? Do the firefighters? What are they?

LEADING PRACTICES

Daily vehicle checks are one of several consistent tasks in the fire service. They're always going to happen, every shift and every day. It's not uncommon for these check-offs to fall victim to complacency and not be taken seriously.

Depending on the department or station culture, the potential for a readiness near miss is present if little effort and time are given to equipment inspections. As a company officer, establish a habit with your crew that facilitates a thorough and disciplined vehicle check.

Each person must take ownership for their own equipment. The driver/engineer can "trust but verify" the performance of the equipment checked by other personnel. Any potential issues of complacency must be brought to light and addressed with all members.

The daily vehicle checks may seem mundane, but an oversight made during this simple task can become a much greater issue at an emergency scene.

RELATED NEAR MISS REPORTS

- [Open Compartment Door Overlooked by Engineer](#)
- [Saw Blade Becomes Deadly Projectile](#)
- [Low-Pressure Hose Failure Found During Daily Check](#)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [FirefighterNation.com Article: A Guide to the Daily Equipment Check](#)
- [IAFC Quick Drill: Is Your Rig Ready? \(PDF\)](#)

[FireApparatusMagazine.com Article: Daily Apparatus Checks Are Commitment to Safety](#)

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL